



ACS CONNECTION



January
2019 Issue



ACS Main Location: 2601 Indiana Avenue
Telephone (270) 798-9322



Army Community Service Helps a Veteran Obtain His U.S. Citizenship

By Mary Young, ACS
Relocation Assistant

John Benedict was born in Czechoslovakia in 1946. He migrated with his parents to America when he was 11 months old and lived in New York City. When Mr. Benedict was 7 years old, his parents became naturalized citizens.

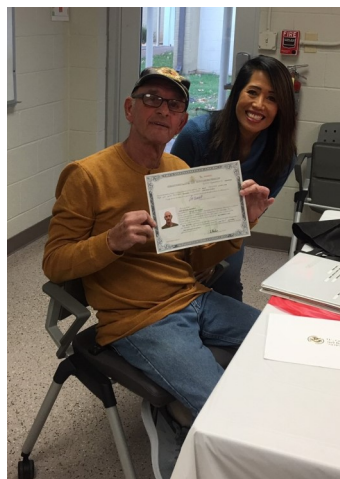
At the age of 19, Mr. Benedict joined the United States Army. Serving in the Army was a dream come true for Mr. Benedict. He served 3 tours in Vietnam, and served an additional 3 years.

He loved being a Soldier and proudly served America and the U.S. Army. Upon completing his tour and serving honorably, he was discharged. When Mr. Benedict joined the Army, he was told that serving in the military would automatically make him an American citizen.

Mr. Benedict, who is now 72 years old, believed for 53 years that he was an American citizen. Unfortunately, Mr. Benedict's wallet was stolen and that's when he discovered that he was not an American Citizen.

He went to the Social Security Administration Office to apply for a replacement social security card. When asked for proof of citizenship, Mr. Benedict didn't have any documents to prove he was an American citizen.

A distraught Mr. Benedict sought legal advice from an immigration attorney.



Mr. John Benedict poses with Mrs. Mary Young, proudly holding his U.S. Citizenship Certificate

He paid several thousand dollars to Legal Services for assistance to obtain his citizenship. However, on a fixed income, Mr. Benedict couldn't afford to pay additional legal fees.

His paperwork for citizenship was never completed. He sought help from the Veteran Affairs Office and was referred to Fort Campbell Army Community Service (ACS) for assistance.

Mr. Benedict contacted the Fort Campbell ACS Relocation Readiness Program.

This program provides assistance to Soldiers and their Families coming to and leaving Fort Campbell on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) status.

Additionally, the program provides citizenship and immigration guidance for active duty Soldiers, Retirees and their Families and Veterans.

Mrs. Mary Young, Relocation Assistant, provided personalized aid to Mr. Benedict to help him obtain his citizenship.

Mrs. Young conducted an assessment of his case and reached out to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Office Military Help Line for legal advice on his behalf.

Mr. Benedict was surprised to find out because of his veterans' status he did not need to pay for his application for Certificate of Citizenship. Mrs. Young reviewed his application, ensured it was completed accurately and all supporting documents were submitted to the USCIS in Memphis.

She conducted several follow ups throughout the year with USCIS in Memphis and after 53 years, Mr. Benedict has officially become an American citizen last month.

Mr. Benedict was excited and immediately went to the Social Security Office to replace his social security card and to the County Clerk's Office to become a registered voter. Mr. Benedict is thankful to ACS Relocation Program and Mary Young for their assistance in helping him obtain his Citizenship, but most of all he is proud and honored to be an American.

For further assistance and information regarding immigration and citizenship requirements, military members may visit the [uscis.gov](https://www.uscis.gov/military/naturalization-through-military-service) website (<https://www.uscis.gov/military/naturalization-through-military-service>)

USCIS has opened a new Nashville field office. Assistance with citizenship/green cards is now available "by appointment only" at the Lance Corporal Jose Francisco Jimenez USCIS Nashville Field Office, 340 Plus Park Boulevard, Nashville, TN.

For additional information, contact the Military Help Line at 1-877-CIS-4MIL (1-877-247-4645) or visit <https://my.uscis.gov/en/appointment/v2> or email militaryinfo@uscis.dhs.gov.

ACS Relocation Readiness Program offers citizenship classes. 270-798-6313/0513.

Why Have a Family Readiness Group (FRG)?

By Christa Renner, Mobilization, Deployment, & Stability Support Operation. Contractor, TJFACT.

Let us start by looking at the name of the group - Family Readiness; the name alone tells us that the mission of this group is to help the Family to be ready; but ready for what?

The main purpose of an FRG, is to educate Families on the resources available to them as military Families. This is an on-going education and mentoring process.

The Army presents its own unique challenges for Soldiers and their Families. Soldiers have to be trained and ready to complete the mission and Family members need the information and skills to be able to support their Soldiers.

The FRG is a part of the Army's Family Readiness System (FRS). The FRS is a network of programs and services that is in place to help improve the quality of life of Service members and their Families.



According to Army Regulation 608-1 Appendix J; J-1 (b) the FRG is a command-sponsored organization of Soldiers, civilian employees, Family members,

(immediate and extended) and volunteers belonging to a unit.

FRGs will provide mutual support and assistance, and a network of communications among the Family members, the chain of command, and community resources.

Family members who are confident in navigating the resources available to them are able to better face the challenges that can arise and thrive during deployments, thus allowing their Soldiers to stay focused on the mission.



The ACS Mobilization, Deployment & Stability Support Operation (MD&SSO) Program offers a variety of FRG Leadership and key position trainings for Soldiers and Family members.

To find out more, please contact one of our MD&SSO Specialists located at the Family Resource Center. 270-798-3849/ 270-798-2158/270-412-3195.



We're here for you.

Main Army Community Service - 2601 Indiana Avenue:

Information & Referral	270-798-9322
Employment Readiness Program (ERP)	270-798-4412
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)	270-798-2727
Family Advocacy Program (FAP)	270-412-5500
Financial Readiness Program (FRP)	270-798-5518
Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	270-205-1917
Outreach Program	270-798-2062
Relocation Readiness Program	270-798-6313
Resilience Training (RT)	270-798-0609

Family Resource Center (FRC) at 1501 William C. Lee Road:

Information & Referral	270-956-2935
Mobilization/Deployment (Mob/Dep)	270-798-3849
ACS Volunteer Program	270-798-2063
Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)	270-956-2934
Army Family Team Building (AFTB)	270-798-4800
Army Volunteer Corps (AVC)	270-956-2934

2433 Indiana Avenue:

Soldier & Family Assistance Center (SFAC)	270-412-6000
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5001 Screaming Eagle Drive:

Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)	270-798-0272/0277
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